



Ramblin' Ruth

A Small Community With A Huge Heart

By Ruth LeBlanc

On Sept. 13, the annual Terry Fox Run for cancer research was held in communities across Canada. Stouffville was no exception, with 885 registered participants and 126 volunteers turning out to honour Terrance Stanley Fox's dream of finding a cure for cancer.

This inspiring young man had already lost one leg to this insidious disease when he began his cross-Canada journey to raise funds and awareness. Although his cancer came back with a vengeance and claimed his life before he completed his gruelling run, he generated money, hope and inspiration for all those fighting the disease, and solace for those whose loved ones had lost their lives to cancer.

Today, in large part thanks to Terry and those who have continued to pursue his dream, enormous strides have been made in cancer research. And while an overall cure has not yet been found, many cancers are now being successfully treated and lives are being prolonged.

Teams and individuals met on a beautiful sunny afternoon at the Lebovic Leisure Centre before beginning the run. After offering words of encouragement, event organizer Sandy Schell Kennedy stood in the back of a shiny pickup truck and gave rousing words of support to the large crowd as they began to walk, cycle and run the wonderful new trail. Young couples pushed baby carriages and some participants brought along their canine companions, while others chose to be part of one of the many registered teams.

Watching the opening ceremonies I noticed a team in bright yellow T-shirts gather together in solidarity, and later

found out they were part of Team Amanda. Ann Willberger heads up the team "Livestrong for Nun," in honour of her sister Amanda Barr who died of cancer, and whose nickname was Nun. This was Team Amanda's fifth year participating in the Terry Fox Run. Another dedicated group, Team Todd Pools, had an incredible 107 participants and raised in excess of \$30,000.

As a cancer survivor for the past eight years, and having lost my beloved husband Rick over two years ago to this dreadful disease, I am just now recovering from the trauma and devastation it can bring. Each year I am required to have a biopsy to make sure the cancer has not returned, and with this constant reminder it is difficult to hear the word cancer and not recoil with fear.

I know what this disease can do and I know the devastation it causes. I am one of the lucky ones whose cancer was caught before it became life-threatening, and major surgery without radiation or chemotherapy was my miracle.

For the first time since my husband's death, I was not bitter about the disease. Instead, as I watched the crowd smiling and filled with optimism, I was comforted by the fact that yes, one day there may be a cure. Stouffville should be proud of the residents who walk for a cure and offer hope for the future.

One youngster donated his two dollar allowance to help find a cure. I hope it happens in his lifetime and I appreciate and thank Sandy and her team of volunteers and every participant for their contributions to change.

Stouffville is a small community with a huge heart.

One Hundred Thousand Miracles of Sight

cbm Canada, (formerly known as Christian Blind Mission) plans to eradicate blindness for 100,000 people in just 100 days with its 100,000 Miracles of Sight campaign. For only \$33 and in just 12 minutes, the life of a person living in poverty can be transformed with simple cataract surgery.

"Cataract surgery can provide the most dramatic, overnight change in a person's life who is living with blindness in extreme poverty," said Ed Epp, executive director of cbm. "It has an enormous, immediate impact on the economic viability of an entire family."

Ibrahim is a perfect example of one of the 600,000 people whose sight was restored by cbm last year. An independent farmer in Nigeria, he was robbed of his sight by cataracts eight years ago. In the last four years, his cataracts became so thick he could no longer farm. Desperate to feed his family, he went house to house begging, led by his five-year-old grandchild,

"Thanks to generous Canadians, Ibrahim's sight was restored with a cataract operation," said Mr. Epp. "His life was literally transformed. Ibrahim can farm and provide for his family again."

For just \$33, you can transform someone's life by giving the miracle of sight. cbm is an international Christian development organization that focuses on helping people with disabilities in the poorest countries of the world.

Call 905-640-6464 or visit www.cbmcanada.org for more details.



Ibrahim had his sight restored by cataract surgery after eight years of blindness. The Nigerian resident benefitted from cbm's 100,000 Miracles of Sight campaign.

PLUMBING SERVICES

Joe the Plumber

REPAIRS & NEW INSTALLATIONS

Licensed, insured 20 years exp.

416-568-6928



AUTO SALES

TOP TEN Auto Sales

since 1998

CALL MATTHEW

905-640-1012

(F) 905-640-1013

5531 Main St.
Stouffville, ON L4A 7X5
toptenauto@hotmail.com

416-283-3755

(F) 647-438-9682

4246 Kingston Rd
Scarborough, ON M1E 2M7
www.toptenautosales.ca

Next Day Delivery
\$0 Down Financing Now Available
Over 100 Cars In Stock
\$1500 Down No Credit Check on Vehicles Under \$5,000
EVERY ONE IS APPROVED!

WINDOW TREATMENTS



SHINE
-A-
BLIND
CANADA

Professional Window Treatment Specialists

BLINDS, SHADES & SHUTTERS

• CLEAN • SELL • SERVICE

905-642-5555

POOL SERVICES

ROSEHILL POOLS

"A Little Piece Of Paradise In Your Own Backyard"

- Inground Pool Construction & Renovation
- Solar Systems • Liners • Salt Water
- Ozonators • Chemical Delivery
- Openings • Sales & Service
- Weekly Maintenance

BRIAN POWELL

(905) 642-2121



DIRECTORY of Services

To get your business in the directory of services call: 905-640-FREE (3733) or email: bstapley@sympatico.ca

HAIR SALON & SPA SERVICES

GRACE CHIACCHIA, AESTHETICIAN, formerly from **Headlines Salon and Spa**, has joined **Lisa Ronco** at **Salon L**. Offering a wide variety of aesthetic services which include pedicures, manicures, facials, waxing etc. A member of the North American Podology Association and has a certification in Infection Control. Same great service, different location.

SALON L now carries **Kevin Murphy Hair Products** which are paraben free and sulphate free. All products contain essential oils that are naturally superior to man-made substances. With these products your hair will look like you've just stepped off the cat walk. For an appointment with Grace or Lisa call (905)591-0350.

HOME RENOVATIONS

Drywall 4 U

All types of drywall and plaster work. Quality workmanship at competitive rates "No job too big or small"

Steve Mercer - Master Plasterer

For clean, friendly service and a free estimate call: 905-591-1702
nikkiandsteve@dreamscapedrives.com

MUSIC LESSONS

We Rock THE SCHOOL

FORM A BAND
MEET NEW FRIENDS
PLAY AT OUR SPECIAL
LIVE EVENTS

"We Rock School of Music" brings a fresh NEW approach to Music Lessons right in the Heart of Stouffville!

All Ages, all kinds of Music, Beginners to Advanced

- GUITAR • ELECTRIC GUITAR • BASS • DRUMS • VOCALS
- SONGWRITING • BAND COACHING • RECORDING

Call & sign up today!

905.640.4790 • INFO@WEROCK.CA • WEROCK.CA

CATERING SERVICE

Gourmet on the go What's for Dinner?

No time to cook? Don't like cooking? Can't cook? **GOURMET ON THE GO** shops, cooks & cleans up, so you just come home to ready-to-eat, balanced meals! Less timeshopping, cooking & cleaning means more time for what's important to you. Or sit back & enjoy a dinner party!

gourmetonthego@rogers.com

647-654-1199